WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUSTIONS

Complaints against officials of Oil Selection Boards

2833. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaints against the Chairman and Membres of various Oil Selection Board, during the last three years;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps are being taken to streamline the working of OSBs and prevent corruption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Complaints have been received from time to time against the functioning of some of the Oil Selection Boards alleging irregularities in the selections made by them. Accordingly, the tenure of the Chairman and the Members of the undermentioned OSBs was terminated by the Government owing to their unsatisfactory performance:

Bihar

Haryana

Himachal Pradesh

Karnataka

Kerala & Lakshadweep

Maharashtra, Goa Daman & Diu

Punjab

Rajasthan

Tamilnadu, Pondicherry and Andaman & Nicobar Islands

Uttar Pradesh

In addition to the termination, instructions have been issued to the OSBs from time to time so as to ensure fair selection on merits.

Electricity Distribution by IRC

2834. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments have rejected the proposal of the Central Government to vest powers of licensing corporates entering into electricity distribution to IRC;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take any further steps in view of the stiff opposition by the State Governments on the formation of IRC; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Economic Package for Himachal Pradesh

2835. SHRI SUSHIL BARONGPA: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister has announced economic package for special category States in the recent, past; and

(b) if so, the reasons the Himachal Pradesh not being considered for such a package?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) No, Sir. Prime Minister has not announced economic package for all special category States. However, in his recent visit to North Eastern Region and Jammu & Kashmir, certain development programmes as announced are annexed (*See* below).

(b) No announcement of any economic package for Himachal Pradesh has been made by P.M. so far.